Reviewer’s report

Title: Effects of infection and disease with Mycobacterium tuberculosis on serum antibody to glucan and arabinomannan: two surface polysaccharides of this pathogen

Version: 1 Date: 18 September 2012

Reviewer: Monde Muyoyeta

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Minor Essential Revisions

1. Line 134 reads: likewise, among subjects treated for TB, most had been treated in the 1990s;.... What does most mean? It is better to give actual proportion and time from treatment to enrolment to the study.

2. Line 167 on the issue of exposure to environmental mycobacteria as origin of CP antibodies in group 0 (group not exposed to TB). It would be nice for the authors to mention that this could a limitation of measuring CPs in places where there is high exposure to environmental mycobacteria. And also mention application of this method maybe limited where BCG vaccination is routine (high burden countries mostly).

3. Line 171 reads: TB in young children is a primary disease... This sentence and the sentences that follow are not very clear in what they are trying to put across. Maybe it should be rephrased.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests